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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Advice on Building a Strawbale Home to Be Part of Hearst Lecture Series Monday

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- A talk on "The New Strawbale Home," with an emphasis on the sense of touch, will be given Monday (Nov. 3) by author, photographer, filmmaker and strawbale-building pioneer Catherine Wanek at 7 p.m. in the Rotunda (Room 213) of Cal Poly's Business Building.

The program is part of the fall Hearst Lecture Series of Cal Poly's College of Architecture and Environmental Design, which is emphasizing the sensations and perceptions addressed by the design professions. The free series, "Architecture of the Senses," is open to the public.

Wanek's lecture, named after her recently published book, will offer advice on strawbale design, siting and ways to save money and energy, as well as building techniques to avoid common complications during the construction process and ensure a well-planned home. Wanek has been an advocate for strawbale construction since 1992, has produced and directed a "Building with Straw" video series, and has spent five years publishing and editing The Last Straw Journal.

Other programs coming soon in the series are:

- "Density, Affordability and Community Feelings" at 4 p.m. Nov. 7 in the Rotunda of the Business Building. Architect and Dean of Architecture and Environmental Design R. Thomas Jones will draw on his own past practice and from strategies used by other successful developers, architects and community groups. Jones has designed or developed more than 800 units of affordable housing, many of which won design awards. Jones is co-author of "Good Neighbors: Affordable Family Housing" and former executive director of the California Futures Network, a multi-sector "smart growth" coalition.

- "R.M. Schindler's Greatest Works in Los Angeles," a one-day bus trip from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 8. Architect Judith Sheine will guide a tour of architect Schindler's work to show how he believed his concept of "space architecture," or the total designed environment, distinguished his work from other "modern" era architects. The program has limited space, and advance registration is required; sign up by e-mailing ljoines@calpoly.edu or calling 756-1321.

The Hearst Lecture Series brings internationally respected design professionals to Cal Poly to speak, visit classrooms and critique student design projects. The series is supported by a grant from the Hearst

Foundation. For more information, call the College of Architecture and Environmental Design at (805) 756-1311.

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